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## NOTES AND DISCUSSIONS.

*THE PHILOSOPHY OF KANT IN EXTRACTS.*

*To the Editor of the Journal of Speculative Philosophy :*

DEAR SIR : Will you allow me a word of explanation in regard to my "Philosophy of Kant in Extracts," of which a very kind notice appears in the April number of your "Journal." Unfortunately, the book is now out of print; but I propose to issue a new edition as soon as possible. May I request those who believe that such a work is needed to send me any suggestions that may enable me to make it more useful? Your own suggestion, to give extracts from the "Naturwissenschaft," I shall duly consider. It has also become evident to me that more space must be devoted to the Moral Philosophy of Kant, and that the "Metaphysic of Ethics," as well as the "Kritik of Practical Reason," must be laid under contribution. It must, however, be borne in mind that the primary object of the work is not to serve as a substitute for the study of Kant, but as an introduction to that study. My experience as a teacher of philosophy has taught me that some very powerful irritant is needed to awaken the all-too receptive students of our universities from their "dogmatic slumber." Lectures *about* philosophy are not sufficiently stimulative of independent thought, and are apt to substitute one dogmatism for another. Philosophy means nothing for a man unless it enables him to philosophize for himself. The very difficulty of Kant's thought and language make the study of his own writings a valuable discipline. Besides, Kant is the vestibule to all modern philosophy worthy of the name. The pitiable condition of our English psychology, which continues to mumble over the dry bones of Locke, under the hallucination that it is doing all that could be expected of it, shows how indispensable is the study of Kant. For these and other reasons, I think I may venture to ask for the kind assistance of my fellow-teachers of philosophy and others in making the new edition of my book as complete as possible. It is my intention to add a few explanatory foot-notes, which may save those who make use of the work in teaching some little trouble, and may set them free to give their main energy to the criticism of Kant himself. As to the propriety of a short critical introduction, I am more doubtful, and should be glad to have the opinion of others. The book must, of

course, be kept within reasonable limits, so that it may adapt itself even to the slender purse of the student who is cultivating philosophy on a little oatmeal. The price per copy must not, I think, exceed \$1.50. For this reason I cannot, I fear, adopt the suggestion of my friend, Prof. Burt, of Michigan University, to print the German text as well as the English equivalent. Of course if there were a guarantee of the regular sale of the book in any quantity, the number of pages might be increased without increase of the price.

JOHN WATSON.

UNIVERSITY OF QUEEN'S COLLEGE, KINGSTON, ONT.,

*July, 1886.*

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*PHILOSOPHY AT MICHIGAN UNIVERSITY.*

[We have received from the Philosophical Department of the University of Michigan the following announcement of a series of papers, some of which are already prepared and ready for the press; while others are promised, should the undertaking meet with sufficient encouragement. It will be noted that the subjects included in the announced series are of wide and diversified interest, and from the character of the authors we are assured that they will be discussed in a clear yet thorough and philosophical manner:]

Under the collective title, "Philosophical Papers," it is proposed to issue serially a collection of monographs relating to various philosophical subjects, or aiming at a philosophical treatment of miscellaneous topics.

The first series, to be issued during the present year—probably during the first half of the year—will consist of four numbers, containing the following papers and addresses, delivered before the Philosophical Society of the University of Michigan:

- I. University Education. Prof. G. S. Morris.
- II. Goethe and the Conduct of Life. Prof. Calvin Thomas.
- III. Educational Value of Different Studies. Prof. W. H. Payne.
- IV. { Philosophy and Literature. Prof. B. C. Burt.
- { Herbert Spencer as a Biologist. Prof. H. Sewall.

Such papers as these will, it is believed, be valuable and attractive to the large and rapidly growing number of those who are interested in the serious, yet not too technical, discussion of current problems in philosophy, both in themselves and in their bearing on leading questions in literature, science, education, art, and religion. The success of the "first series" would be taken as an encouragement to go on in the future, developing such germs of growth and usefulness as this venture in publication may contain. In that case the papers to be published hereafter would not necessarily be confined—as in the present case—to those read before the Philosophical Society and written by professors.

The undersigned, speaking with regard to all the papers mentioned above, except his own, is able to vouch for their attractiveness, and for this reason, as well as others implied in the foregoing, very earnestly and respectfully solicits of all to whom this circular